(a) the details of the political parties and their student wings which have filed income tax return during last three years, year-wise and party-wise; and

(b) the details of donations/ contributions received from public sector organizations during the said period, year-wise, party-wise and organization-wise alongwith the head and entitlement clause under which such disbursements and donations were made, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Centralised data in respect of details of the political parties and their student wings which have filed income tax return during last three years, year-wise and party-wise is not maintained by the Government. The information is being collected from the field formations spread all over the country and to the extent possible shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Political parties are required under the Income Tax Act 1961, only to maintain the details of voluntary contributions above Rs.20,000/- received by them. However, there is no requirement for them to file the details of these contributions with their returns of income. Such details can be obtained only if a case is taken for detailed scrutiny. It is therefore not possible to furnish the information in respect of para (b).

Rolling back subsidy

2790. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to roll back subsidies in different sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise;

(c) whether Government is aware about the impact of it on common people of the country; and

(d) if so, the plan of Government to protect the interest of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Having regard to the needs of poorer sections, the levels of prices and the subsidy outgo, some specific announcements relating to major budgetary subsidies were indicated in the Budget for 2009-10, which included: National Food Security Act with the objective of providing every family living below the poverty line in rural or urban areas an entitlement of 25 kilos of rice or wheat per month at Rs.3 a kilo; the intention to move towards a nutrient based fertilizer subsidy regime and the intention of the Government to set up an expert group to advise on a viable and sustainable system of pricing of petroleum products. The above has not yet been operationalised.

Development of National Consumer Price Index

2791. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: